



Bits from the DPL

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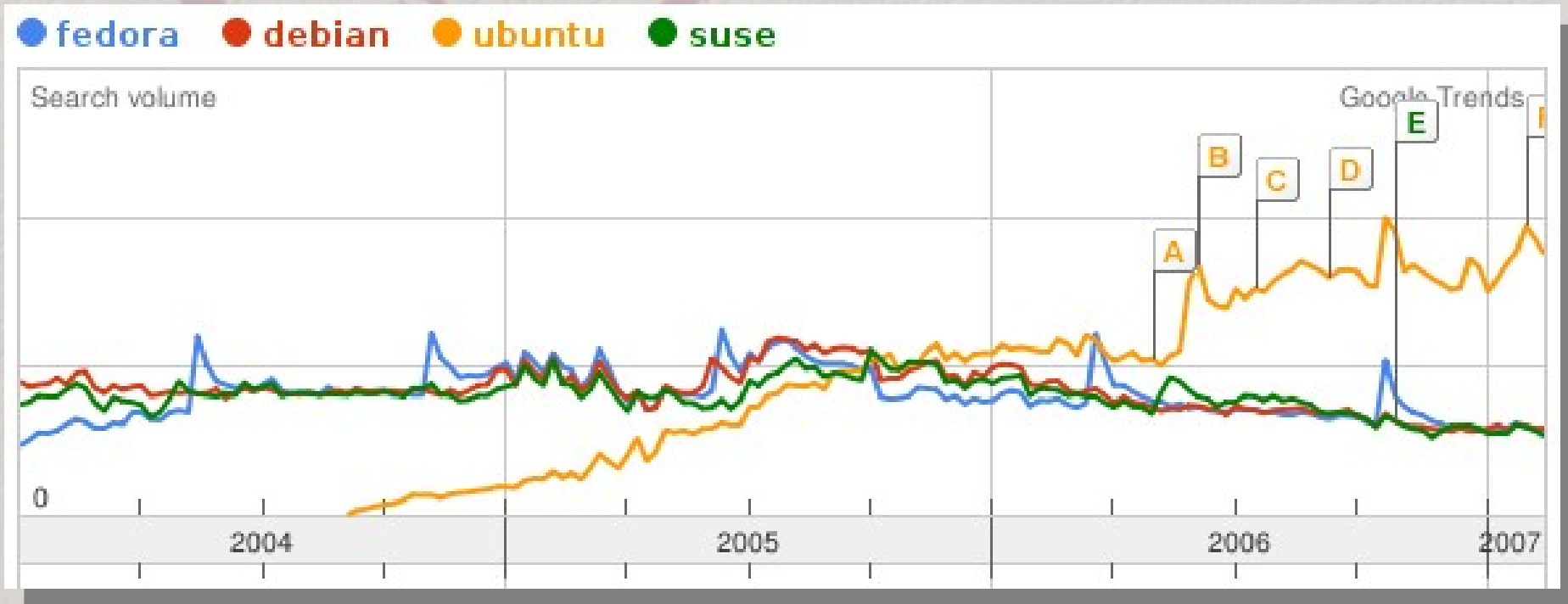
DebConf'07
Edinburgh, June 17th 2007

Why I am here

- ◆ ~~because I'm so handsome~~
- ◆ ~~because I'm so brilliant~~
- ◆ because you voted for me!
(why, oh why?)
- ◆ a sexier distribution
- ◆ a more efficient project
(and you want it too, it seems)

Why a sexier distribution?

- ◆ because we are not alone



Why a sexier distribution?

◆ because we are not alone

Rank	Distribution	H.P.D*	Distribution	H.P.D*	Distribution	H.P.D*	Distribution	H.P.D*	Distribution	H.P.D*	Distribution	H.P.D*
1	Mandrake	473	Mandrake	770	Mandrakelinux	1,457	Ubuntu	2843	Ubuntu	2843	Ubuntu	2843
2	Red Hat	453	Red Hat	631	Fedora	1,202	Mandriva	1664	openSUSE	2027	PCLinuxOS	2081
3	Gentoo	326	Knoppix	489	KNOPPIX	910	SUSE	1451	Fedora	1444	openSUSE	1778
4	Debian	211	Gentoo	460	SUSE	858	Fedora	1211	MEPIS	1045	Fedora	1471
5	Sorcerer	253	Debian	428	Debian	822	MEPIS	1145	Mandriva	1015	MEPIS	1168
6	SuSE	250	Yoper	390	MEPIS	694	Debian	827	Damn Small	841	Debian	1110
7	Slackware	216	SUSE	366	Gentoo	670	KNOPPIX	830	Debian	819	Sabayon	1019
8	Lycoris	209	Slackware	357	Slackware	669	Damn Small	687	PCLinuxOS	774	Mandriva	912
9	Lindows	151	Lycoris	220	PCLinuxOS	451	Gentoo	647	Slackware	648	Mint	826
10	Xandros	123	Xandros	175	Damn Small	411	Slackware	613	Gentoo	618	Damn Small	707
11	Vine	113	Lindows	157	Xandros	367	FreeBSD	460	KNOPPIX	615	KNOPPIX	615
12	Libranet	94	Damn Small	141	Red Hat	343	Xandros	426	FreeBSD	499	Gentoo	589
13	Beehive	87	Vector	134	Ubuntu	300	PCLinuxOS	426	Kubuntu	480	Zenwalk	581
14	ROOT	83	Libranet	132	Vine	290	Kubuntu	407	Vector	413	Slackware	557
15	CRUX	83	Morphix	131	FreeBSD	290	CentOS	350	CentOS	409	CentOS	514

Why a sexier distribution?

- ◆ because we are not alone
- ◆ because it is what our users want

```
10 N = Now.Year() + 1
20 Print N + " will be the year of
   the OpenSource desktop, maybe"
30 Wait.Years(1)
40 Goto 10
```

- ◆ not just a launch menu
 - ◆ documentation, translations, integration, screenshots, user-friendliness, icons, themes, eye-candy, QA

The next Debian

- ◆ faster release cycles
- ◆ more frequent point releases
- ◆ bigger point releases
- ◆ kFreeBSD, armel, Solaris (?)
- ◆ multiarch
- ◆ ... and a lot of cool, sexy new stuff

Why a more efficient project?

- ◆ we're not doing *that* bad
- ◆ but a few things can improve everything

Our core teams

- ◆ they have been doing the same thing on a nearly daily basis for years
- ◆ they're overwhelmed
- ◆ joining is not easy
- ◆ I'm working on that!
- ◆ but you can also help by finding ways to work around them
 - ◆ it gets things done
 - ◆ it gets things done faster
 - ◆ it relieves them from some of the work

Stop owning packages

- ◆ being in charge is OK, merely owning is not
 - ◆ e-mails are not hostile acts
 - ◆ bug reports are not hostile acts
 - ◆ NMUs are not hostile acts!
-
- ◆ famous Wikipedia policy: **be bold**
 - ◆ honestly, what can't you undo?
 - ◆ do more NMUs!

What if you get hit by a comet?

- ◆ the whole universe disappears
- ◆ the whole universe struggles to survive without you



You can “die” in many ways

- ◆ you simply lose interest
- ◆ you have exams
- ◆ you move
- ◆ a billionaire hires you
- ◆ you have kids
- ◆ you get married
- ◆ people also really die :-(
- ◆ IOW, real life gets you

Make it easier for Debian

- ◆ shorter release cycles
 - == lower tolerance for delays
 - == higher impact of inactivity
- ◆ there's nothing wrong with doing
- ◆ but please, don't make it hard for Debian when you're not here
- ◆ use Alioth!
- ◆ give write access to more people!

Take back from others

- ◆ take back .desktop files
- ◆ take back translations
- ◆ take back *their people!*
- ◆ make it easier for translators, artists and documentation writers to join and contribute to Debian
- ◆ we don't want that evil non-free tool?
OK, let's find another way

Communicate

- ◆ within Debian
 - ◆ don't assume no one cares
 - ◆ it's better to have a public place for everything
- ◆ with other distributions
 - ◆ they are not hard to reach
 - ◆ share problems, ideas, patches



Thanks !

- ◆ any questions?
- ◆ have a pleasant DebConf!

Slides available here:

<http://sam.zoy.org/lectures/>